

## AMERICA'S BEAU BRUMMEL

Reminiscences of Col. Richard Hickman, a Famous Character in Washington.

How He Obtained the Sobriquet of "The Prince of Bummers"—Three Years of Affluence and Thirty of Piteable Penny.

Staff Correspondence of the Indianapolis Journal.

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Washington's most famous character, if selected by popular vote, would be decided to be Col. Richard Hickman, known the country over as Beau Hickman, the Prince of Bummers.

Colonel Hickman was born in Virginia, presumably, as he came from that State to this city, arriving here in the year 1834, about twenty-two years old. From this date for about three years may be included the Beau's joyful period of existence, when the world was seen only through rose-colored glasses and life was but a merry game of love and lasses, amours and petting "affaires." He swung the old globe about as quickly as a politician as he was gay and merry a high-browed the city has ever seen.

In short while his name was as well known in Washington as that of Beau Brummel in London. He moved in exclusive circles, had all the polish and graces of an F. F. V., and spent his patrimony with a lavish hand. At the races he was a valued tipster, and knew more about horses and their merits than most of the jockeys. He was a frequent patron of the theaters, and was as much at home behind the scenes as before them.

Here an anecdote is apropos. Beau on one occasion visited the theater accompanied by a lady highly placed in the world of society. He was, as usual, fantastically attired, and crowned by the one only and famous high hat of white beaver that was famous as being a part of his attire. At the end of the first act Beau pleaded an absorbing thirst and left the side of his charmer. He was soon behind the scenes engaged in converse with the sweet maid who figured in the play, and the ranting tragedian who played the Roman captain. So engrossed were the actors with the pleasant and witty sallies of Beau that the cue for the actor's appearance came almost unperceived. He dashed on the stage, and was greeted with roars of laughter from pit to gallery. The reason for this outburst was easily discerned. The Roman soldier was crowned with Beau Hickman's high white hat instead of martial helmet.

FROM AFFLUENCE TO POVERTY.

The Beau's life of pleasing dalliance was rapidly coming to an end. For the short three years of affluence and high-flying indulged in by Beau he was compelled to repay more than thirty years of what would have been to any other a most humiliating and wretched existence. From the society reveler he was reduced to a state of piteable penny. He never learned the state of his finances until he had none and then, it being late to retrieve his squandered fortunes, it became necessary for him to adapt himself to his altered fortunes in the most expedient manner. There was but one course left open to him, to become a dependent upon charity. To his high strung and sensitive nature this was an achievement so difficult of execution that he at one time even admitted that the sums he extorted by his bumbling methods could be characterized as offerings of charity.

His fall from his high estate was not as sudden as his financial wreckage. He did not cease his well existence when he found that all his resources had become exhausted, but kept on spending the money that he had not, as recklessly as he had spent the money that he had formerly possessed. Where he had before liberally bestowed gold and greenbacks he now distributed notes and "I. O. U.'s," trusting to the recalcitrant Dame Fortune to visit him again at some time in the hope that he might find this time patronized the most exclusive hotels, kept up his social connections and was great as ever. His reputation as such was the one thing that prevented his creditors from swarming in upon him.

Unlike the impecunious George Brummel of England, Hickman never truckled to thrive in a state of poverty. What he was he made himself and never depended upon princely favors. When his money gave out he did not stoop to his creditors by parading his friendship with royal personages, but by his exhibition of brassy impudence kept alive an impression of his financial worth and importance. Even when fallen to his lowest level he never failed to attempt to impress one with his financial solidity, even though his shoes were only vamps and his raiment mainly tatters and patches.

THE PRINCE OF BUMMERS.

Beau Hickman's few years of prosperity left but faint impress on the public mind. It is as the prince of bummers that he is best remembered. For years the principal hotels knew him but to fear him, afterward they looked upon him as a sort of sideshow feature to be visited out to visitors to the national capital as the famous Beau Hickman. Every new visitor was legitimate prey, and liable to assessment. Beau's home seemed to be in the lobbies of the hotels. He was often seen at the Capitol and other public resorts, but the greater part of his time was spent in the public hostelry. Here he was always an opportunity to pick out his man, and as this meant often meals and a bed to him he naturally devoted a considerable portion of his time to selecting his victims. The assessments mulcted were seldom more than a quarter or a half dollar, and these extorted with such a good grace that the victims felt truly that it was more blessed to give than to receive. He also had a regular list of patrons, mainly Congressmen, on whom he levied assessments at regular periods.

Beau's last public appearance was in the great carnival of 1871, held to celebrate the completion of the Pennsylvania Avenue, from the Capitol to Georgetown, with wooden blocks. On this occasion, mounted on a white pony and surrounded by that famous high white hat, Beau put his horse through his paces in a manner to demonstrate that in his youth he had been no mean horseman.

In October, 1873, occurred the death of this noted character. He was ill but a short while, being cared for at Providence Hospital, and afterward sent to the almshouse, where he died on the 15th of October, uncares for and alone. He was buried in Potter's Field, but the day afterward his body was taken from the spot by popular subscription and transferred to a grave in Congressional Cemetery.

FERRY S. HEATH.

Patent Tax-Receipt Book.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

LEXINGTON, Ind., June 20.—The County Commissioners, in session to-day, purchased for \$700 the right to use a patent tax-receipt book in this county. J. S. Harrison, county treasurer, is the patentee. It is a combination receipt, containing a receipt, a coupon to be used to keep the cash account, and the receipt proper, the paper being perforated between each and easily detached. Mr. Harrison has encouraging reports from several prominent points over the State complimenting the receipt.

Death of Mrs. Collins Cassidy.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

MARTINSVILLE, Ind., June 20.—Mrs. Collins Cassidy, of Shelbyville, died of dropsy this morning, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John M. Clarke. She was seventy-six years old, and was here visiting relatives. Her remains will be shipped to Knoxville Monday for burial.

Will Have Electric Motors.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

MATTOON, Ill., June 20.—Everything looks very encouraging for the building of the Mattoon & Charleston electric street-railway at an early date. Ordinances have been passed granting the company the use of the streets, and the stock has all been subscribed.

C. B. Templar Not Guilty.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

MUNCIE, Ind., June 20.—Last night at 11 o'clock, Judge Bundy, of Henry county,

charged the jury in the case in which Attorney Clayton B. Templar was charged with altering and defacing public records. To-day noon the jurors appeared saying they could come to no verdict, but his Honor sent them back with instructions to try again. The jury retired again and this afternoon returned a verdict of not guilty.

LADY AND LORD BROOKE.

The Woman in the Baccarat Case and the Man Who May Sue for a Divorce.

LONDON, June 20.—England is on the verge of another scandal that is likely to eclipse the baccarat case in public interest. It reports are true the Prince of Wales will soon figure as co-respondent in a suit for divorce brought by Lord Brooke against his wife, now popularly known as the "Babbling Brooke." Albert Edward is said to rival the Duke of Malborough in his gallantry, and like the famous head of the House of Churchill, prefers married women to serve as the heroines of his drama of royal love. His Royal Highness Field Marshal the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, etc., is nothing if not fastidious, and does not in this matter resemble his great ancestor, Duke Robert of Normandy, father of William the Conqueror, who bestowed his smiles on the daughter of a tanner. Quite the contrary, the prince



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smiles only on noble dames whose possession of aristocratic quality and refinement is attested by her previous marriage with a member of nobility. Lord Mordant was long ago honored by this royal preference for his wife and was rash and ungracious enough to resent the distinction of a princely confirmation of his good taste in the choice of a spouse. It now appears that Lord Brooke is equally childish and unreasonable in his attitude to the throne, and that he is about to seek a divorce from Lady Brooke on the ground of her too pronounced attachment to his Royal Highness. Britons everywhere will watch with keen interest the denouement of this latest scandal which treads upon the heels of the Tranbycroft revelation.

INDIA'S GREAT CRIME SOCIETY.

Thousands of Thugs Organized for Robbing and Murdering Unwary Travelers.

London Standard.

The subject of this article (the Thugs of India) forms a moral and political phenomenon, which, perhaps, the most extraordinary that has ever existed in the world—a phenomenon more striking than anything that romancers have feigned touching the Old Man of the Mountain or the Secret Tribunals of Germany; a phenomenon of which strange and appalling glimpses have been occasionally obtained, but of which the nature and extent have never, and probably never will, be fully understood. It appears, then, from the most overwhelming evidence, that there existed in India a vast fraternity of murderers, consisting of many thousands of persons; that this fraternity has existed for many ages, and through many political revolutions; that it has spread its ramifications over the whole of that vast country, from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas; that it has flourished alike under Hindu, Mohammedan, and British rule; that it has destroyed multitudes of victims; and yet that its constitution—its laws, its organization, its aims, its methods—may say its very being—has been quite unknown to the most active and vigilant English functionaries, and very imperfectly understood, even by the native governments.

I was, indeed, notorious that gangs of thieves sometimes strangled travelers. It was notorious that the members of these gangs were usually expert at the operation of strangling; but that the gangs were merely small detached portions of a vast organized community, the members of which recognized each other as brethren in the remotest parts of India, that these murders were all committed according to certain ancient and solemn forms, and were regarded by those who committed them, not as crimes, but as solemn rites which would have been sinful to omit, remained long unsuspected. These extraordinary people are known by the name of Thugs. Their profession is called Thuggee. They are divided into Burkas, or persons fully instructed in the art; and Kuboolas, or persons who consider themselves capable of forming a gang of Thugs out of the rude materials around him in any part of India; and a Thug who has arrived at the degree of proficiency in this art ought not to be therefore left at large. A Kuboola, or novice, they think, could do nothing if left to himself, and he might, therefore, be left at large without much danger to society if he had no leader to join.

These are by no means nominal distinctions. No Thug is allowed to take his degree as a Burka, or to assume the office of stranger, until he has been on many expeditions, and acquired the requisite courage and insensibility by actual degrees. They are first employed as scouts, then as assassins, then as shamseers, or holders of land, and, lastly, as Bhurtotes or stranglers. When a man feels that he has sufficient courage and insensibility for the purpose, he solicits the oldest and most renowned Thug of the gang to make him his chela, or disciple. The Thug agrees to become his guru, or spiritual preceptor, and when the gang falls in with a man of respectability, but not much strength, fitted for the purpose, he tells the guru that he is prepared, with his permission, to try his hands upon him.

While the traveler is asleep with the gang at their quarters, the guru takes his disciple into a neighboring field, followed by three or four old members of the gang. On reaching the spot chosen, they all face to the direction the guru intends to move, and the guru says (in Ramasse), "Oh, Kallee, Kunkalee, Bhudkalee, Oh, Kallee, Mahakalee, Calcutta Walee. It seems to thee fit that the traveler now in our lodging should die by the hand of this slave, vouchsafe us the Thibaoe. If they get the auspice on the right, with a certain time (half an hour), it signifies her sanction; but if they have no sign or the phibaoe (sign on the left), some other Thug must put the traveler to death, and the candidate for honors wait for another time. The Thugs patrol along the roads under various assumed characters, in parties

varying from ten or twelve to several hundreds. They appear as traders, as pilgrims, as sepoys seeking or returning from service, and sometimes one of their number figures as a raja, with all the necessary equipments of tents, carriages, etc., and the rest act the part of his obsequious followers.

The Thugs are almost always travelers. Their victims are almost always travelers. The most expert members of the gang are employed to collect information and to insinuate themselves into the confidence of travelers, whom they watch at the resting-places or overtake on the road. They usually propose to them to join company for mutual safety, and if the traveler assents, one party, he soon falls in with another, who pretend to enter into his feelings of distrust. A person is sent before to select a proper place for the murder, and scouts are employed to prevent intrusion. The travelers are generally induced to sit down under pretense of resting themselves, and they are strangled at once on a given signal. The bodies are then buried, after having been mangled to expedite dissolution, and to prevent their swelling and causing offence to the ground.

Two Thugs are employed in the murder of each individual, one of whom holds his legs or hands while the other applies the knife. The Thugs are also employed to kill, lest the faithful animal should cause the discovery of the body of its murdered master. Thugs designate their murders in a peculiar manner by the number of persons killed. Thus, they speak of the Sutrooh, or sixty-soul affair. The Chalees-rooh, or forty-soul affair, is also famous. Sometimes, but very rarely, the Thugs are obliged to depart from their rule of putting their victims to death by strangling. This was the case in a remarkable instance in which they obtained a booty of £20,000 sterling. In Bengal, which is much intersected by rivers, the plan is modified to suit the circumstances of the country. The practice there is to inveigle travelers on board pretended passage boats, which are manned entirely by Thugs, and then to strangle them and throw their bodies into the river. Several of these boats follow each other at short intervals, so that if the traveler escapes one snare he may fall into another.

The Thugs are forbidden by their rules to kill women of any description, and either men or women of the following classes: Fakirs, bards, musicians by profession, dancing men or women, washerwomen, sweepers, oil vendors, blacksmiths and weavers, men or women who are leprosy or leprosa persons, men with cows, and Ganges water carriers while they have the Ganges water actually with them; but if they have murdered a woman of these classes, they are obliged to make good. These exceptions are not, however, made out of compassion, but from a feeling which is one of the strangest tenets of this strange system of religion.

The Thugs date all their misfortunes from their murder of a native lady, when the cull Kallee Beebe, or black lady, who was proceeding to Hyderabad with a sheet of cloth of gold for the tomb of a brother of Saialab Khan. Since then the northern Thugs have murdered women of this class; but those south of Nerudda adhered to the primitive usages in this respect. The extent to which the natural feelings of humanity have been extinguished in these miscreants is perfectly astonishing. A party of them accompanied Nawal Singh, a Jemadar in the Nizam's service, and his family more than two hundred miles, were on most intimate terms with them for about twenty days—and received essential favors from them.

Once Nawal Singh, not knowing them to be Thugs, procured their release when they were imprisoned on a charge of setting a house on fire in which they had lodged; and on another occasion his two daughters of eleven and thirteen years of age saved them from detection by sitting upon some plundered silk whilst they were searched by the police. He and all his family were put to death. A system so diabolical, which embraced the whole of India, could not be repressed by a few inroads upon it. The gradual dispersion of the gangs, which was vigorously entered upon by the government, has the usual effect of a persecution, which does not go the length of entire eradication. The scattered Thugs formed numerous separate gangs, and although the number of new recruits was small, they enlisted contributed in the end to their downfall, yet its immediate effect was greatly to increase the number of victims.

Misplaced Economy.

Washington Post.

Major's father had been planning to take the family to the sea-shore for the first season. He had been getting some initiation into the details as to wardrobe, and was about to depart for the purpose.

"I wish I hadn't said so much about being short."

"Why?" inquired his wife.

"Because I'm afraid I've been leading the gal to some little extremes in economy in her bathin' suit and ball-room dresses."

Men and Women.

There is not one of you who would not have a box of the wonderful healing ointment (P. C. C.) Persian Pile Cure, if you only knew its value as a cure, healing balm, not only as a cure for piles, but as a cure for catarrhs, hemorrhoids, and for rheumatic pains and aches, and for all sores. We send by mail large box for 25 cents. If your druggist does not have it, address Persian Manufacturing Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

French Lick and West Baden Springs.

The Pennsylvania Lines, in connection with the L. N. & W. Railway, have put on a through car daily (except Sunday) to West Baden and French Lick Springs, leaving Indianapolis at 4:10 p. m. and arriving at French Lick at 8:30 a. m. Retaining, the car leaves French Lick at 6:30 a. m. and arrives at Indianapolis at 11 a. m. Excursion tickets now on sale.

Artificial Teeth Without a Plate.

Or, a false set, A. J. Morris, 304 E. Washington St., opposite New York Store, Indianapolis.

Pullman Sleeping Car from Indianapolis to New York.

Commencing Sunday, June 7, the Pennsylvania Lines will run daily an extra Pullman vestibule sleeping car from Indianapolis to New York, via Albany and New York, for the particular accommodation of Indianapolis passengers, on train No. 20, leaving at 3 p. m. Supper will be served in Pullman dining car.

Simoon Coy.

305 South Clark street, Chicago, Ill.

SCROFULOUS SORES.

From Head to Waist, a Mass of Dis-

ease. Suffering Terribly. Cured by Cuticura Remedies.

I was covered with scrofulous sores from my head to my waist, suffering so that I could not sleep nights, and could be down only with pillows under my head. My head was so inflamed I could not wear a hat, and being a farmer I could not go to work, so wore a very soft handkerchief on my head. In fact, I was a disgusting sight to others and to myself. After doctoring for six years with the best physicians in the country, and getting worse all the time, I had given up all hope of getting well, when I saw your Cuticura Remedies advertised and procured a set, although with little faith in it. The first set, however, did me such a vast amount of good that I continued their use, and now after using four sets, I feel happy to say that I am entirely cured. Any of the prominent business men and farmers here will endorse my story.

GEORGE A. HUBBARD, Plainfield, Ill.

Barber's Itch 14 Years.

In 1874 I caught a bad case of the barber's itch, and from that time on the fall of 1881 I doctor myself continually, without any benefit. I tried every remedy, but to no purpose. I could not wear a hat, and being a farmer I could not go to work, so wore a very soft handkerchief on my head. In fact, I was a disgusting sight to others and to myself. After doctoring for six years with the best physicians in the country, and getting worse all the time, I had given up all hope of getting well, when I saw your Cuticura Remedies advertised and procured a set, although with little faith in it. The first set, however, did me such a vast amount of good that I continued their use, and now after using four sets, I feel happy to say that I am entirely cured. Any of the prominent business men and farmers here will endorse my story.

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Cuticura Remedies.

Are the greatest Skin Cures, Blood Purifiers, and Humor Remedies the world has ever known. Cuticura Remedies, the new blood and skin purifier and greatest of humor remedies, cleanses the blood of all impurities and poisonous elements, and thus removes the cause, while Cuticura, the great skin cure and Cuticura Soap, an exquisite skin restorer, clear the skin and scalp and restore the hair.

Sold Everywhere. Price, Cuticura, 50c; Soap, 25c. Ready Relief. Prepared by the Foster Drug and Chemical Corporation, Boston.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases." 64 pages, 50 illustrations, and 100 testimonials. P. M. PILES, black-heads, red, rough, chapped and itchy skin cured by Cuticura Soap.

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With this single exception, take your choice of the best that we have—suits made up to sell at \$30, \$28, \$25, \$22, \$20, \$18 and \$15 for \$13.75. You'll find the very best foreign and domestic fabrics represented in these goods, and they are made and trimmed as well as if they came from the highest-priced tailors.

## CHOICE SALE OF KNEE PANTS SUITS.

Until July 4 our Boys' Department will be especially attractive to parents. During the next two weeks we offer unreserved choice of any two-piece knee pants suit in our house for

\$4.99

Not a suit reserved. All of our \$10, \$9, \$8, \$7 and \$6 fancy worsted, cheviot, cassimere, serge and flannel two-piece knee pants suits go until July 4 for \$4.99.

## HO! FOR EUROPE OR CALIFORNIA.

Who will guess nearest to the number of pins sticking in the MODEL'S balloon? You get a guess with every purchase. All guesses must be in by July 4. The pins will be counted July 6. What more magnificent vacation could any one wish for than to take either of the trips offered. The winner of the prize will be presented with first-class passage from Indianapolis to Europe or California and return.

## MODEL

## FAIRVIEW PARK.

Prof. W. Z. LOVE, AFTERNOON WEDNESDAY, June 24, 5 o'clock.

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Election of Trustees. Notice is hereby given that there will be an election of three (3) trustees at the annual meeting of the Indianapolis State Dental Association, in the city of Indianapolis, Sunday, June 29, 1891.

W. VAN VALKENBURGH, Secretary, Terre Haute, Ind.

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